

Supply

be situated beside the Soviet Union or Mainland China? We are situated beside the most friendly group of people on the face of the earth and a great neighbour, I concede that. The point is that that relationship is an overwhelming one. Every Prime Minister of the country has had an opportunity to describe it. Yes, let us go for more trade but not at the expense of the independence of our foreign policy, the independence of our defence policy, our political sovereignty, our economic integrity or our cultural integrity. That is what worries us.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): We feel that those principles might well have been breached over the weekend in Quebec City. Who was the big winner? I suppose I would put St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, first. He was the undoubted winner.

The Prime Minister loves to weave tales about his modest upbringing as the barefoot boy from Baie Comeau. He likes to recall to his official biographer how he once sang for the then publisher of the *Chicago Tribune* who came to Baie Comeau to inspect his fiefdom, the Quebec North Shore Paper Company. The Prime Minister, as young Brian, used to sing American-Irish ditties for the colonel for which he would receive the odd \$20. Well, the Prime Minister was singing for his supper again over the weekend. He is still singing.

The Prime Minister had his cap in hand. As a matter of fact, "Cap" got out of hand, did he not? The Minister of National Defence (Mr. Nielsen) and the Secretary of State for External Affairs had a lot of trouble with "Cap" until they finally got his CTV interview straightened out.

In any event, there was such a great atmosphere at the meeting. It is too bad it had to be interrupted by a bit of work. Not much work was done but some business got taken care of. There were advance press releases just to loosen up the party so they could have a good time. I am sorry the good time had to be interrupted by two hours' work.

The Prime Minister did a lot of preparatory work in order to get a deal on acid rain. He began by saying the kinds of things the U.S. administration loves to hear. He seems to think that the United States Government could make a case for taking no action. He told U.S. officials that our record on acid rain was not as good as theirs. He said we had to go to the table with clean hands. We on this side of the House have dealt with this matter before. My colleague, the Hon. Member for Davenport (Mr. Caccia), has dealt with it very explicitly.

The Prime Minister threw our cards away before he ever got to the bargaining table. Never mind that we had a program to reduce sulphur dioxide emissions by 25 per cent by 1990 and 50 per cent by 1994 and the U.S. had no such program. Never mind that the United States produces 19.6 million tonnes of nitrous oxide per year while we produce only 1.7 million tonnes. The Prime Minister gave the President of the United States an easy way out. He threw away our bargaining chips before he ever got to the table.

After laying that solid groundwork, the Prime Minister did try to recover. In preparation for the Summit meeting, the Minister of the Environment (Mrs. Blais-Grenier) announced a plan to spend \$300 million over the next 10 years to combat acid rain. The Hon. Member for Oshawa has been very explicit with respect to acid rain. Real progress in this area is measured by the definition of standards as goals. It is measured by agreement on regulations to promote those goals and the expenditure of money to meet those standards. We did not get any of that. Instead, we got special envoys and we will have more study and more talk.

We will have another year of Bill Davis, Mr. Environment himself. I will not repeat the words of the Hon. Member for Oshawa, but how about the record of Ontario Hydro? How about the record of Inco? With that sense of patriotism, a \$1-a-year man who is probably overpaid at that—

Mr. Broadbent: Yes, 99 cents overpaid.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): I would like to know from the Secretary of State for External Affairs what commitment the Prime Minister received from William Grenville Davis in terms of time. How much time will he dedicate to this particular enterprise?

Mr. Broadbent: He can do it in Florida.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): He can always discuss the matter over baseball training with the Blue Jays in Florida. The Secretary of State for External Affairs just nodded, indicating that he would like to join that particular enterprise.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, we also support the second part of this motion which concerns the position of the Progressive Conservative Government on the American star wars project.

However, I would like to make it clear that unlike the New Democratic Party, we believe in the need for solidarity with our NATO partners. We are not in favour of Canada's withdrawing from this organization. We are not isolationists. We are committed to our allies. We support the terms of this motion, but our support is not unqualified. However, although our approach is entirely different from the approach taken by the NDP, it also differs from the perspective taken by the Progressive Conservative Party.

[English]

We believe in supporting our friends and we believe in honouring our obligations. Of course, we will give our friends the benefit of the doubt. However, being a friend means having the courage to tell a friend the truth in times of stress regarding areas in which there is no doubt. We believe in speaking out to both superpowers regarding constructive dialogue in the search for an end to the arms race. This is why we suggested in an earlier amendment that the Strategic Defence Initiative be put on the agenda at Geneva for discussion between the two superpowers.